

March 9, 2001

## NATIONAL VETERANS REHABILITATION SPECIAL EVENTS

**1. PURPOSE:** This Veterans Health Administration (VHA) Directive defines the appropriate procedures for submitting proposals to host one of the National Veterans Rehabilitation Special Events.

### **2. BACKGROUND:**

a. Formerly, the national events were under the auspices of Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) Headquarters Recreation Therapy Service, but recently they were reorganized to the Deputy Secretary's level as a One-VA initiative. The reorganization offers more visibility to these important events, as well as the ability to solicit the help of all entities within VA to include VHA, the Veterans Benefits Administration (VBA), and the National Cemetery Administration (NCA). While certain voluntary and service organizations provide abundantly in both manpower and financial support to the national events, these events are under the administrative and organizational province of VA; and it is VA that is ultimately responsible for the conduct of these events. Therefore, it is imperative that site selection be the prerogative and responsibility of VA Central Office officials. In making recommendations, appropriate review and counsel will be solicited from a variety of interested parties.

b. The National Veterans Rehabilitation Special Events include the National:

- (1) Veterans Wheelchair Games,
- (2) Veterans Golden Age Games,
- (3) Veterans Creative Arts Festival, and
- (4) Disabled Veterans Winter Sports Clinic.

**3. POLICY:** All proposals to host a National event must be addressed in the manner stated in paragraph 4 of this directive.

### **4. ACTION:**

a. Any VA facility contemplating the submission of a proposal to host a National Veterans Rehabilitation Special Event must submit a proposal through its respective Veterans Integrated Service Network (VISN) Director to the Chairperson, Bid and Site Selection Committee, VA Medical Center (VAMC) San Antonio. **NOTE:** *Bid packages (information to be included in a proposal) may be obtained by contacting the Chairperson, Bid and Site Selection Committee (11K), 7400 Merton Minter Blvd., San Antonio, TX 78284.*

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b. All VA facilities submitting a proposal to host one or more of the national events must be willing to accept a site visit from an appropriate member of the Bid and Site Selection Committee. That individual will be responsible for reviewing facility space, staff organizational structure and preparatory needs, and community support necessary to host the event.

c. Proposals for any of the special events activities will be reviewed and evaluated by the Bid and Site Selection Committee and a recommendation submitted through proper channels to the Deputy Secretary of Veterans Affairs for final approval.

**5. REFERENCES:** VHA Manual, M-2, Part XXII.

**6. FOLLOW-UP RESPONSIBILITY:** The Vice-Chairperson, National Veterans Rehabilitation Special Events Management Group (002), is responsible for the contents of this directive.

**7. RESCISSIONS:** None. This VHA Directive expires March 9, 2006.

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Under Secretary for Health

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